



Date: October 29, 2004
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Carl Kemp, Manager of Public/Governmental Affairs
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: Weekly Update Ending October 29, 2004

The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending October 29, 2004 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Police

On October 26, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced the appointment of Chief Anthony Batts to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The Commission was established by the Legislature in 1959 to set minimum selection and training standards for California law enforcement. There are more than 600 agencies in the POST program.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

The First Annual Cal Olson Charity Tournament and grand re-opening ceremony was held at Skylinks at Long Beach today. The tournament was sold out with 144 entries, including several sponsored junior golfers. All proceeds from this tournament will go to funding Long Beach Junior Golf programs.

Public Works Department – Graffiti Abatement

As of September, there was a 57 percent decrease in the number of sites called in to the Graffiti Hot Line, compared to the same time last year. There was a significant increase, 67 percent, in sites actually abated. This is due to a staff's proactive approach to graffiti abatement.

Number of sites abated as of September 2004:	34,852
Number of sites abated as of September 2003	20,919

Public Works, Airport

The Aircraft Owners and Pilot's Association (AOPA) held its annual convention in Long Beach from October 21 through October 23. According to AOPA, there were over 11,000 attendees and 535 exhibitors, making this the "second most successful convention." Over a four-day period, staff from Toyota AirFlite and the Long Beach Airport parked and provided services to more than six hundred arriving aircraft and over 1,200 pilots. The static aircraft display held at the Airport hosted 73 aircraft. A volunteer staff of 240 individuals from throughout Long Beach, Los Angeles and Orange counties volunteered thousands of hours to assist with the aircraft and the static display.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Police

The 18th annual D.A.R.E. luncheon was held on October 26 at the Long Beach Renaissance Hotel with the theme "D.A.R.E. to Help a Child." Those on hand to celebrate the achievements made by local D.A.R.E. participants, included City Council members and members of the Mayor's staff, representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, and Long Beach Unified School District; and leaders from the private sector who provide support to the organization, including Boeing and Hyundai.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Library Services

In a partnership with the Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach Public Library patrons who show a check-out receipt from any Long Beach library will receive a 50 percent discount on up to four adult, child or senior Aquarium admissions. The receipts are valid for up to two weeks from the checkout date, and may be used only once. The "Pass to the Pacific" program ends June 17, 2005. For more information, please call the Aquarium at (562) 590-3100.

Fire Department

The Long Beach Fire Department and Long Beach CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members will be taking part in a full-day Los Angeles County CERT refresher drill on **Saturday, October 30** at the Los Angeles County Fire Department Training Center. There will be three disaster evolutions presented to the CERT members; cribbing (the stabilization of overturned vehicles), fire hose use, and injury simulations with victims who need to be evaluated and rescued in full moulage (injury simulation make-up).

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

As part of the "Meet the Director" series, Fire Chief David Ellis will speak about the Long Beach Fire Department's programs and services on **Thursday, November 4, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 425 Atlantic Avenue. A "Bioterrorism Preparedness" workshop will feature information from the City of Long Beach's Department of Health and Human Services on **November 11 from 6 to 7:30 pm.** These free workshops for the Long Beach community provide Spanish and Khmer translation. Please RSVP by calling the Neighborhood Resource Center at 562-570-1010 or via e-mail to JoAnn_Rojas@longbeach.gov.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

The Fire Department's monthly visit to the Miller Children's Hospital for LBFD KIDS was held today. Firefighters took kids trick-or-treating through the hospital collecting candy and treats from various staff members at the hospital.

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,166 emergency calls for service: 172 calls for fires, of which 37 involving structures. It also responded to 716 emergency medical calls; 467 requiring paramedics.

Police

The Police Department is starting a Department Action-Research Team. Participation in the Team will be voluntary. Its purpose will be to utilize the research interests and skills of employees in finding ways to improve the effectiveness of the Department. Assisting the Department in this process will be three retired professionals from UCLA, CSULB and the RAND Corporation.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

Over 275 Poly High School students, teachers and residents participated in the annual "Make a Difference Day" clean-up in Central Long Beach on October 23. The dedicated volunteers collected more than 20 tons of trash from the streets and alleys from Pacific Coast Highway to Anaheim Street and Long Beach Blvd. to Martin Luther King Blvd.

City Prosecutor/Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

The Butler School Community Neighborhood Code Enforcement Program held their regular monthly meeting on October 23. The fifteen committed resident "Block Captains" focused on their accomplishments since the group formed seven months ago. In addition to improving the overall appearance of their neighborhood, they have been successful in solving 14 years of code violations from one resident by confirming his eligibility for "Rebuilding Together Long Beach" which will insure that the numerous violations are abated. Additionally, they have been successful in working with another property owner to eliminate 12 years of violations.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

The design for replacing the paving at the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier plaza is 90 percent complete, and is being circulated to staff for review prior to submittal for Building Permit plan check. The plans for the Aqua-link dock are 50 percent complete and are being circulated for staff review.

At Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, the accessibility improvement plans have been completed and have been submitted to a contractor for a construction bid. Construction is expected to begin in December.

The construction plans for the accessibility improvements at Bixby Knolls Park have been completed and construction is expected to begin in December.

The design of the Teen Center at Admiral Kidd Park is expected to be completed by March of 2005.

October 29, 2004

Page 4

NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

On October 23, 55 children and 40 parents from Whaley and College Estates Parks visited the Pyramid at Long Beach State University for a volleyball tournament. Participants had the chance to meet Tayiiba Haneef of the 2004 US Olympic Women's Volleyball Team. All children received a free volleyball.

On October 23, 45 Adaptive Recreation participants competed in the Special Olympics Chapter Games held at California State University, Fullerton. Athletes from Stearns Champions Park and other Long Beach areas competed against over 500 other participants from throughout the state.

The year-round Mobile Recreation Program participated in the annual Andy Street Clean-up Fair on October 23. Over 35 children and youth from the surrounding neighborhoods attended the event.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Community Development, Workforce Development Bureau

Staff promoted the services and opportunities available through the Youth Opportunity Center and Career Transition Center at the following community events: St. Mary's Neighborhood Improvement Strategy meeting; the 3rd Annual Educational Symposium, "Equality in Education: Leaving No Child Behind in the Process," LB City College's Pacific Coast Campus; an educational workshop sponsored by the Empower Long Beach Association; and at the City's Disability Awareness Month event.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

On October 23, Homeland Cultural Center presented Dance Rally 2004. The day began with performances by the dance groups based at Homeland Cultural Center along with Debembrab (West Afrikan drum and dance), Ntxhais Paj Ntaub (Hmong Quilting Girls), Homeland Breakers, Millennium Jazz Hip Hop, Maria Folklorico, and Queen's Historical Society. A Master West Afrikan dance workshop presented by Aboubacar Camara followed the performances. The day closed with a bonfire and drum circle led by Haniff. Approximately 350 people attended this special event.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

The Strides for Change—MADD Walk, with an estimated attendance of 2,000, was held on October 23 on various city streets and at the Queen Mary Events Park.

Warner Brothers, with a cast and crew of 120, filmed "Must Love Dogs," from October 26- 28 at Recreation Park Dog Park.

Granite Productions, with a cast and crew of 110, filmed "Clubhouse" on October 25 at Blair Field and the Recreation Park Golf Course.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Community Development, Redevelopment Bureau

The Redevelopment Agency approved, on October 25, the contract for the preparation of the Independent Study of Redevelopment by Clarion Associates.

Long Beach Energy, Gas Services Bureau

The Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 3,082 service calls, including 781 Gas and Water Utility Turn On orders, and 720 Turn Off orders. There were 1,360 Customer Service Orders for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 221-meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed and 163 customer emergency orders were completed.

Human Resources, Transition Update

As a result of position reductions included in the FY 05 Budget, on October 27 the Civil Service Commission received a request for an Order of Layoff from the City Manager as a regular agenda item. The Commission voted to receive the document and instructed the Commission staff to prepare the requested Order of Layoff.

The Request for Order of Layoff is for nine positions in the following eight classifications: Aquatics Supervisor, Clerk, Electrical Supervisor, Institutional Cook, Police Services Assistant, Public Health Physician, Public Health Nurse Supervisor and Storekeeper.

The FY05 budget eliminated over 200 positions, most of which were vacant. This Order of Layoff will generate a Civil Service Seniority list in order to correctly identify how seniority will impact the City's transition efforts and will allow the placement of impacted employees into new classifications.

Public Works Department – Project Management

Construction at the Public Safety Building and Fire Station No.1 proceeds with a projected completion date of December 2004. Current activities include the completion of walls, floors and ceilings, testing of the new HVAC systems, and construction of the lobby expansion and community room.

Construction at North Police Station has been completed and follow-up items are being addressed. The building is currently occupied by the Police Department under a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy.

Fence installation is in progress on the 55th Way Park project. Methane vent installation is scheduled for next week.